

Serial No.: 09/859,410

Art Unit: 3618

Examiner: VANAMAN, Frank Bennett

Page 8 of 9

REMARKS

By the present amendment claims 47 and 49 have been amended. Claims 1-22, 24, 31, 33, 40-45 and 52-54 were previously cancelled. Claims 23, 25-30, 32, 34-39, 46-51, 55-60 are presently pending in the application; of these, claims 27, 30, 34, 35, 36 and 58 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 37-39, 46, 48, 50, 51, 55-57, 59 and 60 are allowed.

Claims Withdrawn From Consideration

Claims 27, 30, 34, 35, 36 and 58 are currently withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species.

Claims 27, 30, 34, 35 and 36 depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 23. Claim 23 does not include any limitations that are not present in each of those claims. Claim 23 is therefore believed to be generic. Rejoinder and allowance of claims 27, 30, 34, 35 and 36 is therefore requested.

Claim 58 is dependent from claim 56 which is also indicated as being allowable. Since claim 58 includes each and every limitation of claim 56 and generic claim 23, Applicants believe that claim 58 is in condition for allowance. Applicants further respectfully draw the Examiner's attention to figure 7 where the recited limitation of the claim is clearly illustrated (see also page 9, lines 23-28 of the specification).

Claim Objections

Claims 32, 47 and 49 are objected to for informalities. Applicants have rectified formal deficiencies and typing errors in claims 47 and 49, and they therefore believe these claims to be in proper condition for allowance now. Claim 32 has simply been retyped removing previous amendments and this should clarify things for the Examiner. No amendments were believed necessary at this time.

Serial No.: 09/859,410

Art Unit: 3618

Examiner: VANAMAN, Frank Bennett

Page 9 of 9

Applicants believe that all the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that any additional modifications are necessary to advance the prosecution of the present application, he is invited to telephone with the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan D. Cutler, Reg. No. 40,576

Attorney for the Applicant

Tel. (514) 732-7050

Fax (514) 732-7058